

CHAPTER 10 WATER SERVICE RELIABILITY

The Chino Desalter program is not impacted by wet/dry cycles since the primary source of supply is groundwater. The Chino Basin is one of the largest groundwater basins in Southern California, holding an estimated 6 million acre-feet. Although the basin is capable of storing an additional 1 million acre-feet, issues related to water quality and various physical features prevent the effective use of the extra capacity. The safe yield has been established for the basin and overdraft in excess of safe yield is replenished by groundwater recharge using storm, recycled and imported water. The two Chino Desalters generate over 25,000 acre-feet per year of high quality drinking water.

The Chino Basin Watermaster established a long term goal of pumping 40,000 acre-feet of highly degraded groundwater per year out of the lower Chino Basin to achieve hydraulic control in the basin.

Under the terms of the agreement that created the CDA, the facilities required for the delivery of CDA water may be modified to ensure the water delivery to its member agencies. The cities of Norco and Ontario, and the Santa Ana River Water Company receive water from a combination of dedicated CDA-owned facilities. Accordingly, the Desalter system adds reliability to CDA member agency systems that contain other climate variable sources of supply such as surface water and imported water.

The CDA established a transportation agreement to define the conditions of water delivery and quality. In order to ensure delivery and reliability for years to come, the OBMP requires that another 12,500 acre-feet of groundwater be pumped each year to produce an additional 11,000 acre-feet of drinking water. This additional capacity is expected to result in the CDA's final expansion effort.